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LB 602

SENATOR SMITH: No. I agree.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Okay. So the effectiveness or the ineffectiveness of it probably doesn't have anything to do with it. The act of cloning is the act of creating life, is it not?

SENATOR SMITH: That is correct.

SENATOR BEUTLER: And your position consistently in this Legislature has been in favor of the creation of life, except your position on the death penalty which has been inconsistent. Is that true?

SENATOR SMITH: I defend innocent life.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Pardon me?

SENATOR SMITH: I defend innocent life.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Why are you against a process that creates life?

SENATOR SMITH: Without going into a huge philosophical...

SENATOR BEUTLER: No, go into it. I'm really interested in...

SENATOR SMITH: Okay.

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...why you're against a process that creates life.

SENATOR SMITH: It gets down to the duplication of a genetic code.

SENATOR BEUTLER: You mean you're against it because that which is created is not different from that which came before?

SENATOR SMITH: My respect for human life at any stage comes from the uniqueness of that person. Now there are debates on when personhood starts, but, I mean, scientifically, life begins with the embryo. And...